

REMARKS

Claims 36-43 and 101 are pending in the application. Claims 38, 41-43, and 101 have been amended hereby. Claims 36 and 101 are in independent form. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Claims 38 and 41-43 have been amended to address the objections set forth in the Office Action in paragraph 2. Withdrawal of the objections to the claims is requested.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of Claim 101 under 35 U.S.C. §101, as being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claim 101 has been amended to recite “A computer-readable storage medium storing a program for requesting computer telephony integration control to a computer telephony integration server unit, the program causing a computer to execute a process comprising . . .”

Further, Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner’s assertion that the “computer-readable storage medium,” could be interpreted as “a signal,” for the following reasons.

The Examiner cites page 141, lines 19-20 as support for his interpretation. The last paragraph of page 141 reads as follows:

“For example, as shown in FIG. 59, a program for realizing each function according to a preferred embodiment of the present invention is executed after being loaded to memory (RAM or a hard disk, etc.) 5905 in a body 5904 of a computer 5901 forming the CTI server 2 or the WS 3 through a portable storage medium 5902 such as a floppy disk, a CD-ROM disk, an optical disk, a removable hard disk, etc. or through a network line 5903.” (emphasis added)

Clearly the “computer-readable storage medium” according to the specification is a tangible medium storing the program. At best, the cited portion of the description “or through a

network line 5903” refers to another embodiment for loading the program, and not to the “computer-readable storage medium.”

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 101 is directed to statutory subject matter, and meets all requirements of 35 U.S.C. §101.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of Claims 36, 41-43, and 101 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,970,126 (“Bowater”); and of the rejection of Claim 37 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being obvious over Bowater in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,577,111 (“Lida”).

It is respectfully submitted that Bowater does not qualify as prior art against the present application. This is because the filing date of the priority application JP 09-063469 of the present application is March 17, 1997, and is earlier than June 3, 1997, the U.S. filing date of Bowater.

A certified English translation of the Japanese priority application 09-063469 of the present application is submitted herewith.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 36-43 and 101 are patentably distinct over the cited references.

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth above, and the filing of the certified English translation of the Japanese priority application 09-063469, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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